

Message Text

SECRET

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ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY PM:RAERICSON, JR.:BPW

APPROVED BY PM:GSVEST

PM/MC - MR. ROBINSON

NEA/IRN - MR. NAAS

DOD/DSAA - GEN. FISH (SUBSTANCE)

S/S - PSBRIDGES

D - MR. TICE

----- 106978

P 202231Z SEP 76 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 233129

NODIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: MILI IR

SUBJECT: VISIT OF TOM JONES OF NORTHROP TO TEHRAN

REF: TEHRAN 9345

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM ACTING SECRETARY ROBINSON

1. MUCH APPRECIATE INFORMATION CONTAINED REFTTEL, WHICH WAS PASSED TO SECDEF AS SUGGESTED. DOD HAS NOT YET RECEIVED LETTER FROM TOUFANIAN, BUT IS PREPARING RESPONSE BASED ON ADVANCE COPY PROVIDED BY LOCAL NORTHROP REPRESENTATIVE. RESPONSE WILL BE TO EFFECT THAT TOUFANIAN'S PROPOSAL ON F-18L MUST UNDERGO LENGTHY REVIEW PROCESS; UNTIL THIS PROCESS COMPLETED, DOD WILL NOT BE IN POSITION TO RESPOND. LETTER WILL RECALL THAT IN CASE OF F-16, THIS PROCESS REQUIRED 18 MONTHS.

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2. WITH REGARD TO MATTERS RAISED PARA 5 REFTEL, NORTHROP REQUESTED PM/MC APPROVAL OF RELEASE CLASSIFIED AND UNCLASSIFIED DATA ON F-18L TO GOVERNMENT OF IRAN ON JULY 14, 1976. REQUEST IS CURRENTLY BEING REVIEWED IN DEPT AND IN DOD. INFO COPY WAS SENT TO EMBASSY POL/MIL SECTION ON AUGUST 10, 1976 BY PM/MC AS PART OF LATTER'S PERIODIC NOTIFICATION OF SUCH REQUESTS. THIS IS ONLY REQUEST BY NORTHROP FOR RELEASE OF F-18L DATA FOR IRAN AND NO RPT NO AUTHORIZATIONS HAVE BEEN GRANTED.

3. WHILE IT IMPOSSIBLE AT THIS STAGE TO BE PRECISE, IT APPEARS CLEAR THAT R&D COSTS FOR F-18L WOULD PROBABLY EXCEED DOLS. 300 MILLION AND THAT NORTHROP WOULD EITHER HAVE TO FINANCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM FROM OWN RESOURCES OR SELL MANY MORE THAN THE 250 AIRCRAFT IN WHICH IRAN HAS EXPRESSED AN INTEREST IN ORDER TO GENERATE FUNDS OF THIS MAGNITUDE.

4. DOD HAS F-18L MASTER PLAN UNDER FIRST STAGE REVIEW AND IS AWAITING SUBMISSION OF FURTHER DATA REQUESTED FROM NORTHROP. IT WILL NOT BE SUBMITTED TO STATE UNTIL DOD REVIEW HAS BEEN COMPLETED.

5. WE NOTE SECDEF 201202Z SEPT 76 AND AUTHORIZE YOUR DRAWING FROM IT IN DISCUSSIONS WITH IRANIANS AS YOU FIND USEFUL. ROBINSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INSTRUCTIONS, FIGHTER AIRCRAFT, MILITARY SALES, VISITS, COST ESTIMATES, DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS, INFORMATION CONTROL, CAT-C
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: SmithRJ
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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04 MAY 2006

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To: TEHRAN
Type: TE
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